

On-Premises Signs VS. Off-Premises Signs











Off-Premises Sign Billboard Outdoor Advertising Sign



Sign Regulations Amendments



"The best streets are disfigured at many points with glaring billboards, and the avenues leading to both the large parks are the most unsightly things that could be imagined...

All this makes the city look cheap and tawdry, despite all that has been or can be done in the erection of beautiful buildings and the improvement of streets."

-Indianapolis Journal editorial, 1903

Late 1980s: The Swapout

- 1. Removed billboards from downtown, but added billboards along I-465 (at a 1:2 ratio)
- 2. Prohibited billboards along I-65 & I-70 inside I-465
- 3. City-initiated

2003: The Compromise

- 1. Maintained prohibition on digital billboards
- 2. Decreased separation requirements along I-465
- 3. Relaxed size restrictions along I-465
- 4. Increased separation reqs. along city streets
- 5. Prohibited new billboards Downtown
- 6. City-initiated

2016: Post-Prop 250

- 1. "Completes" Indy Rezone
- 2. Follows demise of Council Proposal 250

Quantitative and Qualitative Zoning Considerations































1

Amber Alert per year in Indiana (2010-2014)

20%

of Indiana Amber Alerts involve Indianapolis

20%

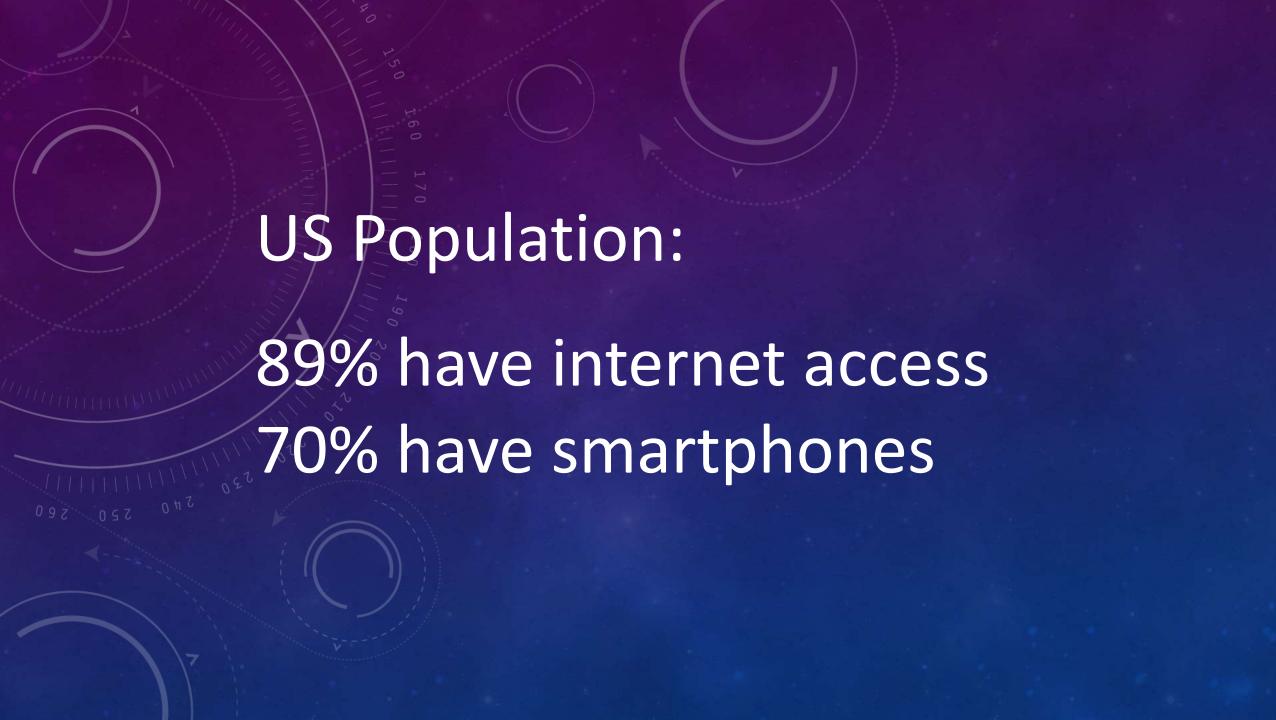
of Amber Alerts are effective

- law enforcement agencies
 - television broadcasters
 - radio broadcasters
 - transportation agencies
 - internet providers
- trucking industry associations
 - social networking sites
- wireless industry representatives
 - digital billboards

1/year in Indiana
20% in Indy
20% effective
vast system













Billboards are Unnecessary.

Does Indianapolis need billboards?

It's true that a conference will have sponsors, and a search engine will have advertisements. Free television and radio exist only because of commercials.

But what do billboards contribute? How does their civic contribution compare to their civic detriment?

Billboards Degrade the Visual Environment.

We regulate billboards and prohibit them in our most valued places like Downtown, the Meridian Street corridor, residential districts and parks because we acknowledge, ultimately, that billboards are undesirable.

Why don't we treat the whole city with the same regard?

Billboards are Unsolicited.

Billboards are imposed on us. They're designed to pull our attention from the task at hand (usually driving) and sell us something.

Billboards are public pop-up ads that can't be switched off. They're junk mail, made 800 times larger, elevated several stories into the air, and placed where they become the dominant visual feature of our public realm.



- After the effective date of this ordinance, there shall be no permit issued for a new off-premises sign.
- After the effective date of this ordinance, there shall be no permit issued for the replacement, repair or alteration of the structure of an existing off-premises sign.

- Before January 1 of every year, each owner of an off-premises sign must submit to the
 Department of Business and Neighborhood Services, a complete list of every such sign they
 have located within Marion County. The list shall included a complete description of size and
 location of each sign as well as its permit or certificate of legal non-conforming use number.
 A fee of \$25* per sign shall be submitted along with the list to pay for inspection and
 monitoring for compliance with these sign regulations.
- Any off-premises sign that does not have a permit or certificate of legal non-conforming use shall be removed, at the owner's expense, within 6 months of the effective date of this ordinance.
- Any off-premises sign that does not comport with the terms of its permit (orientation, location, etc.) shall be removed, at the owner's expense, within 6 months of the effective date of this ordinance.

- Any off-premises sign that does not have a message, image, or combination thereof, displayed for 120 consecutive days shall be considered "idle". The owner shall have 30 days upon notice of DBNS that their sign is "idle" to display a message, image, or combination thereof, or the sign shall be deemed "abandoned".
- Any "abandoned" sign must be removed, at the owner's expense, within 30 days of the determination that it is "abandoned".

 No off-premises sign may be externally or internally illuminated between the hours of 11 pm and 6 am.

PROVISIONS OF CURRENT ORDINANCE TO BE RETAINED

- There shall be no permit issued for construction or retrofitting of an offpremises sign that emits light to create a display.
- Any sign in disrepair or in an unsafe condition must be removed, at the owner's expense.
- Rooftop off-premises signs shall not be permitted.
- Off-premises signs shall not be located on any building.
- There shall be no off-premises sign along any freeway inside the I-465 loop.

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- Off-premises sign messages or images shall not be projected onto buildings or other structures, nor shall they be projected onto any material that will reflect light.
- Awnings, marquees, and balloons may not display off-premises sign messages or images.
- No sound functionality may be added to any off-premises sign.
- No tracking or interactive functionality may be added to or displayed on any off-premises sign.
- No off-premises sign shall be permitted for bus benches or shelters.
- No vehicle or trailer may display an off-premises message or image.